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WILLIAM F. CANTON, ACTING SECRETARY, FCC  
1919 M STREET  
N.W., D.C. 20554

92-77

DEAR SIR:

THIS LETTER IS WRITTEN TO YOU BECAUSE WE HAVE A SON IN A CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION. WE FEEL IT IS ESSENTIAL TO SHOW OUR LOVE AND SUPPORT FOR HIM, IF HE IS EVER TO BE REHABILITATED. HOWEVER, COLLECT CALLS FROM HIM CAN CREATE A REAL HARDSHIP AND PLAY HAVOC WITH OUR LIMITED BUDGET. IF HE WERE ALLOWED TO USE A CARRIER OF HIS CHOICE, PREFERABLY THE SAME ONE WE USE, IT WOULD CUT THE COST SUBSTANTIALLY.

PLEASE GIVE THIS MATTER YOUR CLOSE PERSONAL ATTENTION.  
THANKING YOU IN ADVANCE WE REMAIN,

SINCERELY YOURS.

*Mr & Mrs Wm G Campbell*  
MR. & MRS. WM. G. CAMPBELL  
161 LAKEVIEW DRIVE  
HAINES CITY, FL 33844

CC: MARK NADEL, ESQ., FCC,  
COMMON CARRIER BUREAU, RM. 544  
1919 M STREET  
N.W., D. C. 20554

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Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20554

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MAY - 6 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In the Matter of

Billed Party Preference  
for 0+ InterLATA Calls

CC Docket No. 92-77

To: The Commission

COMMENTS OF CITIZENS  
UNITED FOR REHABILITATION OF ERRANTS

Eugene F. Mullin, Esq.  
Christopher A. Holt, Esq.

Mullin, Rhyne, Emmons & Topel, P.C.  
1000 Connecticut Ave. -- Suite 500  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
(202) 659-4700

Counsel for Citizens United for  
Rehabilitation of Errants

May 6, 1993

## SUMMARY

Citizens United for Rehabilitation of Errants ("C.U.R.E.") is a national, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the reduction of crime and the rehabilitation of offenders through reform of the criminal justice system. The Commission's proposal to implement a billed party preference ("BPP") routing scheme for 0+ interLATA operator traffic would benefit a significant segment of C.U.R.E.'s membership by helping to reduce the substantial costs associated with collect calls they receive from offenders using inmate-only prison telephones. These savings would not only benefit those parties by helping to remove a considerable financial barrier to communicating with loved ones in prison, such savings also would benefit society in general by facilitating family and community ties that have a demonstrable effect in reducing recidivism, preserving the family unit, easing prison tensions, and promoting society's efforts to rehabilitate offenders.

The arguments against BPP made by correctional facility commentators, who have a clear interest in preserving their lucrative commissions generated by operator service contracts, are entirely without merit. BPP would not increase the risk of prison telephone fraud, nor would it hinder the ability of correctional institutions to implement effective controls to prevent inmate abuses. Accordingly, their request to be excluded from any BPP scheme the Commission might adopt should be denied.

The families and friends of inmates who receive and pay for collect calls placed from inmate-only prison telephones deserve to be treated no differently from other consumers who receive collect calls from public payphones. Indeed, because the recipients of collect calls from inmate-only prison telephones have no ability to reduce the costs associated with such calls by arranging for the caller to dial direct, use an access code, or place the call from a different location, they are captive consumers who would likely benefit the most from the Commission's BPP proposal. Accordingly, C.U.R.E. respectfully urges the Commission to adopt a BPP scheme that will accord the recipients of collect calls from inmate-only prison telephones the same benefits as other recipients of 0+ interLATA calls by allowing them to select the long distance carriers of their choice.

*Write to*

*William F. Caton, Acting Secretary, FCC  
1919 M St.  
N.W., D.C. 20554*

*C.C. Mark Nadel, Esq., FCC,  
Common Carrier Bureau, Rm. 544  
1919 M St.  
N.W., D.C. 20554*